

MWR Events

Dive and Snorkel Trip – If you are a scuba diver and have your certification, you can rent dive gear for \$80. Included are two guided dives. Snorkel gear is provided free of charge. Discovery dive costs \$55. We will depart from quarterdeck at 8 a.m. after everyone has signed out. A short drive to the dock to board the 60-foot motor sailer for the trip to one of several snorkeling and diving spots in the area. The boat has all the conveyance, plenty of shade with lunch included at no charge. Soda and beer is for sale. We expect to be back around 7 p.m. The trips are first come first serve, with a minimum of 20 folks.

-Trip Date:

Sign Up Date:

Scuba Diving Classes Start — Classes to earn your PADI open water scuba diving certification will begin soon. The cost for the

course including all equipment instruction and four open water dives is \$350. The two-week course consists of classroom and pool sessions on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 7-10 p.m. with open water on one of the weekend days that week. Specialty course are also available for certified divers. Those interested should contact Scott Ballentine at MWR Cell – 831-027 or drop by the MWR office.

Lake Assal Outing – After signing out at the quarterdeck at 8 a.m., a bus takes you to Lake Assal situated at 515 ft below sea level, it is the lowest point in Africa. Lake Assal is the Earth's saltiest body of water. It is located in an area where Africa may be dividing in two. The bus returns to camp by 5 p.m.

-Trip Date: Sign Up Date:

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the joint task force commander so he can quickly respond to any issue.

Taylor said the absence of the company from Fort Myer is adding a stress to the already-small regiment as it engages in tactical missions as a contingency unit in the Military District of Washington and performs official Joint and Army ceremonial missions.

"But every soldier knows times are different—with the Nation at War, everyone understands the importance of this mission. It is not business as usual back at Fort Myer. The strain of team Bravo's deployment is felt every day," he said.

Given the strain of the deployment, Taylor said the Old Guard has used risk assessments in fulfilling missions at home.

"We balance troop to task everyday to ensure readiness and mission support," he said.

The regiment's missions in Washington, Taylor said, have been as diverse as contingency support for the State of the Union Address in January to conducting a presidential arrival ceremony for the president of Kenya.

"We are conducting joint missions and Army missions at a very high pace," Taylor said.

But he said the regiment cannot continue to operate like this forever.

"The high op-tempo we have right now cannot be sustained indefinitely, but we can do it for a time period, given the importance of this mission," Taylor said.

The importance of the mission at CJTF-HOA, Taylor said, is that it will have a lasting impact on global security.

Although this is a very different theater of operations, this is no less important to the GWOT," Taylor said. "Working with the countries here is setting us up for success for many years to come. Team Battlehard is on a very different front of the war on terror, but it's no less important for the long-term

success of the war."

Soldiers in the company and the unit realize the importance of their mission here and excel in their performance, Taylor observed. Throughout his visit, he, Wimbrough and Robinson offered praise for the company, which he said reaffirms his beliefs about Old Guard soldiers.

"It isn't about being the best ceremonial soldier," he said. "It's about being the best soldier given our mission set. He can stand on Summerall Field with an M-14 rifle or he can stand in Djibouti with an M-4 and demonstrate precision, discipline and excellence in mission accomplishment."

Soldiers said the praise and presence of the command group was motivating to the company.

"It was great to see a familiar face from Fort Myer," said Sgt. Joseph Watson, an infantryman working as the company armorer.

"The RCO and sergeant major's visit lifted morale by reminding us we have support back at Fort Myer," Watson said.

Trotter agreed the visit was a boost to company morale.

"It was good for morale at all levels. It makes soldiers say 'Yeah, my regiment didn't forget about me,'" Trotter said.

Taylor said he was exhilarated by the visit and viewing first hand the importance of the regiment's tactical readiness, both abroad and at Fort Myer.

"The bottom line is that The Old Guard will always have the responsibility to demonstrate the heritage and ceremonial excellence of the Army. But as a contingency Infantry unit with the critical missions in the National Capitol Region, you can't have a ceremonial season and a tactical season unless you can get our enemies to agree on that schedule.

"We must be ready to conduct our full spectrum missions and we are—Team Battlehard in JTF-HOA and all the soldiers at Fort Myer are proving that everyday."

Movie Schedule

Tonight: The Running Man
Tuesday: Mystery Movie
Wednesday: Changing Lanes
Thursday: Dazed and Confused
Friday: Candyman
Saturday: Scarface
Sunday: King Pin
Movies begin at 7 p.m.

Tournament Schedule

Tonight: Ping Pong
Tuesday: Pool
Wednesday: Bingo
Thursday: Foosball
Friday: Spades
Saturday: Dominoes
Sunday: 2 on 2 Volleyball
Tournaments start at 8 p.m.

Wednesday 6 a.m. 5K Fun Run
Starts at the running trail.

Passport and Promotion Photos

Sgt. Melinda Munoz takes passport and promotion photos on Saturday from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Public Affairs office. Emergency photos are by appointment only. Call 824-2343 or 839-905 (cell) to schedule an appointment.